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The Southern Frontier

We dedicate ourselves to the task of doing the most and the best that can be done here and now.

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Postwar Plans of Negro and White Veterans

In the summer of 1944 the Information and Education Division Headquarters of the Army Service Forces asked selected groups of enlisted men and officers what plans they had for postwar employment. Specific questions were asked on migration, agriculture, business and government.

Migration

About 80% of the men studied planned to return to the same State in which they had lived for most of the last five years of their civilian lives just prior to entering the armed services. The exact proportion of veterans who will be migrating to specific regions was not ascertained. However, it is expected that the main stream of migration will be to the Far West. Smaller streams will be from the South to the Northeast, from the Northeast to the South and from the Far West to the Northeast and the South. The main stream of Negro migration, almost half of all veterans who plan to migrate, will be from the South to the Northeast. Smaller streams will be from the South to the Far West and from the Northeast to the South.

Agriculture

Ten per cent of the white enlisted men in the Army were seriously considering farming as a full time occupation following the War. Slightly less than 10% of the Negro enlisted men reported such plans. It is estimated that if present plans are sustained approximately 60,000 Negro enlisted men will leave the Army planning to farm. Twenty-four per cent of the white enlisted men surveyed plan to farm in the South. The 474 men who were surveyed on this subject indicate their wish to undertake the following types of farming:

	Per Cent
Cattle and Sheep	20
Cotton	17
Tobacco	10
Live Stock	9
Dairying	6
Fruit Products	6
All Other	14
Unclassified	18
Total	100

Men who planned to farm in the South had the following plans in mind:

Know the farm they want	30%
Will need to look for farm	25
Expect to work for wages	3
No definite plan	2

Only 4% of the Negro enlisted men who planned to go into farming had had no farm experience. These men definitely expected to own a farm and knew which farm they expect to own. Seventeen per cent of the number will need to look for a farm.

The Negro enlisted men's reaction to the types and locations of lands in which they are interested is as follows:

Type	*Per Cent*
Drained land in South	38
Irrigated in West	5
Land in North now used for army camps	13
Land in South now used for army camps	11
Land in West now used for army camps	4
Not interested in new land	26
No answer	3

Forty per cent of the men who definitely planned to farm formerly resided in the South.

Business

Among white and Negro service men, 7% of each group of enlisted men have definite plans to own a business in the postwar world. However, the men planning for new businesses after the war "do not come up to the level of experience, education, or earnings of men who already have businesses of their own, but they tend to have somewhat more favorable backgrounds for starting businesses than men who do not have plans for businesses of their own."

Thirteen per cent of the white enlisted men and 18% of the Negro enlisted men plan to enter the automotive retail field which will include repair service.

Thirty per cent of the Negro enlisted men and 22% of the white plan to own and operate other types of retail stores, including eating places.

Forty per cent of the white enlisted men and 45% of the Negro will have at least one-half of the needed capital for establishing these businesses.

Government

Many of the enlisted men, white and Negro, will want jobs offered by the various government units. Those having definite plans for this type of jobs indicate preference for them in the following proportions:

	White	*Negro*
Federal Jobs	58%	80%
State Jobs	18	5
County Jobs	3	1
City or Town	15	12
No answer	6	2

In this connection the following opinions illustrate the attitudes on veterans perference: "Veterans should be taught government jobs as they are now taught army jobs." "Veterans sacrifice the most. The government should try to the utmost to see that they earn a living." "We have been to war while civilians had the jobs. Give us a chance at them."

Dr. George S. Mitchell Joins SRC Staff

Dr. George S. Mitchell, until recently Director of the Southeastern Regional Office of PAC, has joined the staff of the Southern Regional Council to direct a special program for veterans, with emphasis upon a square deal for Negro veterans.

GEORGE S. MITCHELL

SRC is proud of its new staff member, and is looking forward to some notable achievements in its veterans program under his direction.

Dr. Mitchell, who was born in Virginia, is a member of a family which has contributed distinguished service in the cause of a more progressive South. He was educated at the University of Delaware, University of Richmond, Johns Hopkins University, and at Oxford University, England, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. From 1929-35, he taught economics at Columbia University, after which he worked with the Resettlement Administration, serving as a regional director for several years, and was assistant administrator of Farm Security Administration from 1939-1943. In January, 1944, he resigned from the Government to become a regional director of PAC.

Among Dr. Mitchell's best known writings are *Textile Unionism in the South*, 1930; *The Industrial Revolution in the South* (with Broadus Mitchell), 1931; *Black Workers and the New Unions* (with Horace Cayton), 1940. Few men know the South and its problems better than George S. Mitchell.

Says Dr. Mitchell concerning his new

(*Continued on Page* 2)

THE SOUTHERN FRONTIER

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ATLANTA, GEORGIA, JUNE, 1945

To attain through research and action programs the ideals and practices of equal opportunity for all peoples in the region.

Editorial

Discharged, disabled, and demobilized veterans of World War II should be regarded as the interest core of any postwar planning programs in the local communities. Some of these men and women, who will be called veterans, will need and want help of various sorts, others will want to be let alone to work out their own adjustment. All of them expect to find resources through which they can attain their respective goals. All of them have rightful demands on their local communities.

Soldiers returning from the wars are realists. Seldom are they exactly peaceful; they have not become veterans through such actions. They expect fulfillment of some of the promises made them and which they fought to establish for other people in other lands. Furthermore, they have been folk nurtured on the idea that a principle if worth living for is worth dying for. All of this, too, is significant for the community that plans for its veterans.

Elsewhere in this issue we have indicated some of the war facilities and resources that may be utilized in building an effective postwar community program. But in addition to these recreational and cultural programs there are other services that should be made available. The returning veteran should have the *work* he wants. He should have the *training* he needs. He should be able to find the proper sympathetic *counselling* to guide him. He should have the dynamic *good will* of the community. If the average community can make these matters the basis for their actions, providing the services involved for *all* veterans, there need not be a nightmare phase in post-war adjustment.

However, we have no right to interpret the mere prevention of outbreaks as successful planning, nor should we expect the controls of fear and repression to operate among men who have learned to endure and fight off such shocks. What *was* will not be good enough. We have said so and men of the world believed us. We spoke with a strong faith. The veterans expect to see this faith implemented through works equally strong. They and we have had enough of death.

What About Our Human Resources?

Selective service examinations have shown up the glaring waste of human resources which is going on in the South. Every Southerner should ponder the figures shown in the following table and should resolve to do everything in his power to correct the deficiencies that they reflect. Notice that from 329 to 492 of every 1000 white men examined were rejected, and from 497 to 709 of every 1000 Negroes examined were rejected. As for rejections for educational deficiencies, note that these range from 62 to 192 per 1000 white rejections, and from 79 to 307 per 1000 Negro rejections.

If the South is going to meet the challenge of the new industrialization with its demand for healthy bodies, skilled hands, and trained minds, it will have to do something about this picture.

REJECTIONS AND EDUCATIONAL DEFICIENCIES OF SELECTIVE SERVICE REGISTRANTS*

	In Every 1,000 Examined These Were Rejected			*In Every 1,000 Rejected These Were Due to Educational Deficiencies*		
	Total	*White*	*Negro*	*Total*	*White*	*Negro*
Continental United States	392	360	569	77	52	178
Alabama	490	395	610	219	117	307
Arkansas	559	469	709	151	143	168
Florida	532	414	658	117	62	166
Georgia	515	469	578	178	86	274
Kentucky	454	451	497	104	109	79
Louisiana	526	425	640	139	100	168
Mississippi	450	329	542	219	105	266
North Carolina	568	492	715	125	88	168
Oklahoma	406	382	559	74	69	103
South Carolina	559	429	694	173	63	266
Tennessee	447	401	574	172	192	126
Texas	429	394	578	136	148	108
Virginia	522	455	639	152	123	205

*Based upon data from Medical Statistics Bulletin, No. 3, 1944, National Selective Service System, covering registrants examined between April, 1942 and December, 1943.

Don't Close The USO!

The USO has done a fine job with the servicemen. For the Negro soldier the USO has provided not only his recreation and entertainment, but, in many cases, has given him his first contact with a community-wide agency interested in his needs and problems. USO is now reeducating its staff members and volunteers for counseling and assisting veterans in their adjustment to civilian life. For the Negro serviceman this adjustment will be doubly difficult, and he needs the help of the USO more keenly than ever before. If you are interested in promoting postwar race friendliness and in seeing that our Negro veterans get a fair deal, use your influence to see that the USO in your community does not close its doors!

RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE: USO BUILDINGS SERVING NEGROES IN ALABAMA, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, MISSISSIPPI, SOUTH CAROLINA AND TENNESSEE

State	*Types of Buildings*				*Types of Operation**					*Number of Workers*
	Total	*Federal*	*USO*	*Rental*	*YMCA*	*YWCA*	*NCCS*	*CCO*	*SA*	
ALABAMA: Anniston, Birmingham, Dothan, Florence, Gadsden, Mobile, Montgomery, Ozark, Selma, Talladega, Tuscaloosa, West Huntsville	12	2	1	9	9	1	1	—	1	20
FLORIDA: Jacksonville, Key West, Lakeland, Marianna, Miami, Panama City, Pensacola, Tallahassee, Tampa	10	2	1	7	6	1	2	—	1	16
GEORGIA: Albany, Atlanta, Augusta, Bainbridge, Columbus, Macon, Moultrie, Savannah, Thomasville, Valdosta, Waycross	13	3	1	9	6	4	1	3	1	27
MISSISSIPPI: Biloxi, Columbus, Grenada, Gulfport, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Meridian	7	2	—	5	6	—	1	—	—	10
SOUTH CAROLINA: Charleston, Columbia, Myrtle Beach, Orangeburg, Walterboro	7	4	—	3	4	1	2	1	—	13
TENNESSEE: Dyersburg, Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville, Tullahoma	5	1	—	4	4	1	—	2	—	7
TOTAL	54	14	3	37	35	8	7	6	3	93

*Two buildings in Georgia, one in South Carolina, and one in Tennessee operated jointly by the YMCA and the YWCA. NCCS is National Catholic Community Services. CCO is Combined Community Operation.

Dr. Mitchell, *Continued*

work, "Every community in the South has a problem of providing for returning service men and women the kind of jobs and homes and the justice they want. It will take bravery and intelligence for the South to do its part in the nation's readjustment. The Council wishes to link the efforts of all southerners who will work on this challenging job."

There is no defense or security for any of us except in the highest intelligence and development of all.—Booker T. Washington.

Presidential Unit Citations

Two Negro combat units in Europe received presidential unit citations. The 969th Field Artillery Battalion was cited for its action in Bastogne December 18-27, when it fired in support of the cut-off 101st Airborne Division. The Third Battalion of C Company of the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion received the citation for "outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy" in Climbach, France, December 14, 1944.

USO Services to Returning Veterans

HUGH M. GLOSTER
Regional Office, USO, Atlanta

Providing adequate services to returning veterans and reabsorbing them into the life of the nation constitute a task that will demand the best abilities of public and private welfare agencies. "What will happen to me after I return home?" This is a question which is disturbing every GI Joe wherever he is, and he certainly deserves an answer as honest as his question. We owe Joe more than the necessary weapons to finish the fight. We owe him more than gratitude. We owe him a decent job and a bright future. We do not want him to sell apples on street corners as veterans did after the last war.

Types of Veterans

The needs of returning veterans vary with each individual. Broadly speaking, all discharged men who are physically and mentally fit will need to shift from military to civilian activity. A number of these will easily transfer to employment, school, or some other field without the help of private or public agencies. Many others, however, will be confused, unsettled, and perhaps resentful. Some will have trouble in finding suitable jobs. A large number will have mental and physical handicaps.

Services to disabled veterans will be much more extensive after the present conflict. In World War I hospitalization was provided for 75,000 veterans, but the Veterans Administration now estimates that a bed capacity of 300,000 will be required after this struggle. Many men from combat zones have wounds that require protracted hospitalization and rehabilitation. Many others are suffering from neuro-psychiatric disturbances. The dive bomber, the robot bomb, and many other innovations of this war are producing new horrors which will make from 30 to 50% of our casualties psychiatric. We have all heard of complex neurotic cases referred to by such popular terms as shell shock, war fatigue, flying stress, pilot fatigue, war nerves, separation anxiety, transition neurosis, embarkation fever, task force fever, and convoy jitters.

The soldier who returns physically fit also has his problems. He often wants to know when and where he will work. Having been away from home a long time, he wants to see his parents, his wife and children, or his sweetheart. Sometimes he may become bitter when he feels that Americans do not know a war is going on and that many have grown rich in a conflict which has brought brutal death to some of his buddies. He frequently wants information regarding unemployment compensation, jobs, education, loans, and other benefits. If a Negro, he generally knows in advance that many communities will resent his presence in uniform and often will not give him the equal service to which a soldier in a democracy is entitled.

Types of Services

Public and private agencies are organizing to handle the many and varied perplexities and problems incident to the demobilization of more than 14% of our population. The Retraining and Reemployment Administration has been created to plan and coordinate the activities of government agencies dealing with the ex-service group. Private agencies have formed the National Committee on Service to Veterans under the general auspices of the National Social Work Council. This Committee will advise private organizations about services to veterans, offer guidance to local communities, and consult with government agencies.

From its beginning USO has adjusted its program to meet new situations and new needs of the armed forces. While making no departure from its established program, USO is now utilizing its resources to meet the needs of returning men and women. In order to determine what adjustments in the regular program are advisable and what needs of returning personnel it may best serve, USO clubs confer regularly with military authorities and the American Red Cross. In general, however, USO services depend upon the resources, needs, and cooperation of the local community.

In setting up its program for returning service men and women, USO is reeducating its professional staff members and volunteers. In staff conferences, USO professional workers study the needs of returning personnel, the program objectives related to these needs, the functions of other agencies serving veterans, the identification of problems requiring referrals, and referral procedures and techniques. Specialists from the military, the American Red Cross, and the local community are called upon to assist in this in-service training. In addition to providing the leadership of its own national staff, USO provides each club with a bulletin for local use which describes services to discharged men and women by the Selective Service System, the Veterans Administration, the War Manpower Commission, the United States Civil Service Commission, the Vocational Rehabilitation Service, organizations established by the Army and Navy (i.e., the Army Personal Affairs Division, the Armed Forces Institute, the Army Emergency Relief, and the Auxiliary Navy Relief Society), and community organizations.

The Hospitalized Veteran

In planning programs for hospitalized men, USO seeks to provide activities which will foster the establishment of normal social relationships. These programs fall into two principal groups: first, recreational activities approved by military authorities and providing simultaneously an outlet for the interest of patients and a good opportunity to mix with civilians trained to accept them as people; and, second, individual services rendered by USO to patients and their relatives.

USO emphasizes that the individualized approach to hospitalized men is essential. Both professional and volunteer workers are taught to accept the disability or handicap of a soldier and to be interested in him as a personality. They are encouraged to help the hospitalized man to see that fundamentally he is the same person he was when he left, that society recognizes the importance of his personality, that he has fought for worthwhile values, and that he can make a good contribution to civilian life.

The Discharged Veteran

Services to discharged men naturally assume a different aspect from those to hospitalized men. Discharged men are free to come to USO clubs to participate in general program activities. They call upon USO chiefly, however, for information, counseling, and assistance in their return to community life. USO is prepared to refer veterans to the appropriate agencies for assistance with medical care, job placement, family problems, schooling, and other types of problems. USO clubs not only give information but also help the client to establish effective relationships with other agencies.

Attitude Education

Along with other organizations USO is preparing to work in the field of attitude education, showing communities how to avoid mistakes in dealing with returned men. USO clubs are now working in this field by sponsoring meetings for the discussion of the treatment of veterans, hostess organizations concerned with the provision of natural companionship for returning young men, and clubs for educating citizens concerning veterans. USO clubs are also calling attention to short stories and authoritative articles concerning the readjustment of veterans, as well as to radio and platform discussions in this field by psychiatrists and hospital workers. Attitude education is done calmly and objectively, not dramatically and hysterically, lest the community think that the veterans not only *have* problems but *are* problems.

Veterans' Victory

When the veterans of World War II return home, they will be welcomed and acclaimed by throngs of people, and miles

(*Continued on Page* 4)

POSTWAR ANDERSON

Anderson is the county seat and principal city of Anderson County, South Carolina. In 1940, with a population of about 28,000, it was the fifth largest and fastest growing city in the state. The local Chamber of Commerce, wishing to have some idea of what the city's postwar problems and opportunities would be, sponsored a factual survey of the city and county in cooperation with Clemson College, the United States Department of Agriculture, the Committee for Economic Development, Civic Clubs, Negro School Teachers, Women's Civilian Defense Organizations, County Agricultural Extension Workers, and others. All in all it was an amazing undertaking that produced an amazing array of facts.

The full report of this community survey was published by the Anderson Chamber of Commerce in a pamphlet entitled *Anderson—After the War*. A few of the survey's findings and predictions illustrate the general nature of the report.

- Nearly two-thirds of the 1,930 Negro families in greater Anderson had incomes of less than $1,000 in 1943, whereas well over half of the 5,270 white families had incomes of over $2,000.
- The community will need 13,836 postwar jobs as compared with 10,668 available in 1943.
- Assuming 1946 to be a year of peacetime production, it is estimated that employment in the county will be up 25.6 points and payrolls 72.8 points over the 1940 level.
- It was estimated that all families will purchase many more goods in the first two post-war years than they did during the 1939-1940 period. The amount of white families' purchases of selected items will rise from $3,455,352 to $5,436,936, and that of Negro families from $506,240 to $600,180.
- The anticipated sources of funds for these expenditures, as expended by Negro and white families, is shown in the accompanying table.

Source of Funds	*White*	*Negro*	*Total*
Cash and checking accounts	$1,832,247	$100,230	$1,932,477
Savings accounts	353,401	20,406	373,807
Sale of war bonds	636,121	39,612	675,733
Installment plan	1,223,311	169,251	1,392,562
Borrowing	543,694	0	543,694
Value of trade-ins	337,090	9,003	346,093
Other and not specified	511,072	261,678	772,750
Total	$5,436,936	$600,180	$6,037,116

USO, *Continued*

of ticker tape will demonstrate the thankfulness of the nation. Yet not all who cheer will know and understand that these warriors have changed in many ways. All will be older. Some will be hurt in mind and body by shell and shrapnel. Some will have a sense of difference, insularity, and estrangement from the American home front, which is so remote from actual war conditions in other countries. Many will be unsettled, doubtful, or even embittered about their place in the country. Having been through killing and fire and having seen the world aflame, the majority have seen the privations, the dirt, and the abnormality of war. Since they have given, are giving, and will give so much, the least that we can do is to provide a climate of social understanding, warm and helpful to the veterans, whether they be forced to take treatment in an Army hospital or free to seek their rightful places in civilian life. In order that we may gain a victory on the home front as decisive as that which we gained in Europe, and shall gain in the Pacific, we must see to it that every veteran receives the consideration and benefits to which he is entitled.

Negro Troops—European Theatre

On May 15, 1945, there were in the European Theatre of Operations 259,173 Negro troops of a grand total of 3,082,142 United States personnel there at that time.

The South—Thirty Years Ago

- Negro taxpayers in Georgia made returns on property valued at $38,603,307.
- Household servants were difficult to secure. The Atlanta Woman's Club inaugurated a cooking school for Negro cooks.
- Booker T. Washington convoked a farmers' conference at Tuskegee. Its subject, "The Hard Times Situation."
- Gilford Troup, a Negro, had been a justice of the peace in Lawrence County, Alabama, for 24 years. Between 1901 and 1915 he owed his election to white voters.
- Macon, Georgia; Houston, Texas; and Austin, Texas, had Negro policemen.
- On June 7-8, 1914, Negroes in the United States observed "Railroad Day" in an effort to secure better travel facilities for Negroes. The Central of Georgia, Southern, Seaboard, N. C. & St. L., Illinois Central, and Texas Pacific railroads were among the lines which improved their accommodations for colored passengers.
- In 1915 there were 67 lynchings in the South—54 Negroes, 13 whites.
- Bills prohibiting white persons from teaching in Negro schools were defeated in the legislatures of Alabama and Georgia.

Distinguished Negro Flyer

Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, formerly commanding officer of the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy, is now commander of the 477th Composite Group at Godman Field, Kentucky. Colonel Davis, son of General B. O. Davis, highest ranking Negro officer in the U. S. Army, has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Air Medal with Four Oak Leaf Clusters.

Southern Governors' Conference

Representatives of 13 Southern states met in Birmingham on May 18, and, according to Estelle Gaines of the *Atlanta Journal*, "patterned regional problems of education, industry, and government into an advisory mosaic for the Southern Governors' Conference." More than 40 members of the Southwide planning committee recommended higher and equal educational facilities for whites and Negroes, a research coordinator for the South, elimination of state barriers to trade, and the return of the U. S. Employment Service to state control.

The subcommittee on education, which recommended that "equal higher educational facilities be provided for whites and Negroes as rapidly and completely as possible," pointed out that two kinds of legislation will be necessary to put this program into effect. States must first authorize contractual agreements with other states and educational institutions, and they must appropriate funds for students going outside the state.

Institute of Race Relations

The Second Annual Institute of Race Relations, conducted under the auspices of the Race Relations Division of the American Missionary Association, will be held at Fisk University, July 2-21, 1945. A limited number of scholarships is available. Additional information may be secured from Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Fisk University, Nashville 8, Tennessee.

New Publications

The following new publications will be sent out in a few days to SRC members and mailing list subscribers:

Understanding Our Neighbors. A Factual Survey of America's Major Race Problem. Revised Edition. SRC Pamphlet No. 3. 10c.

Economic Value of the Negro to the South. By W. Hardin Hughes. SRC Pamphlet No. 4. 5c.

After the War—? A leaflet on veterans and postwar tensions designed especially for use of women's religious groups. Free.

Opportunities for Negro Veterans in Atlanta, Georgia. By Joseph Shabses. Contains a slip sheet to be used as a guide in compiling helpful information for Negro veterans in any community. 5c.

Voting Restrictions in the 13 Southern States. A report by the Committee of Editors and Writers of the South, Mark Ethridge, Chairman. SRC is assisting with distribution of this pamphlet. Free.

Service Unit Plaques

Two Negro port companies now in the Hawaiian Islands have been given Meritorious Service Unit Plaques for their high efficiency in their work on port installations and ship loading operations in connection with South Pacific invasions.